

Message Text

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62

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 ACDA-19 NASA-04 SCI-06 OC-06 CCO-00

DRC-01 /150 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6311

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY ROME

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USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

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1E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, FR

SUBJECT: U.S. PARTICIPATION IN WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION ASSEMBLY
MEETING, JUNE 18-21, 1973

1. WE ARE POUCHING TO EUR/RPM - WOODARD ROMINE, LETTERS
FROM WEU ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT SIR JOHN PEEL TO VICE PRESENT
(US PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE) AND TO SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
ALBERT INVITING THEM TO DESIGNATE MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS
TO ATTEND NEXT ASSEMBLY SESSION (JUNE 18-21) AS OBSERVERS,
AND TO ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY DURING DEBATE ON ITS REPORT
CONCERNING CONSULTATION AND DECISIONS IN THE ATLANTIC
ALLIANCE. WE ARE ALSO POUCHING TO EUR/RPM LETTER FROM SIR
JOHN TO NASA ADMINISTRATOR FLETCHER INVITING HIM TO ADDRESS
JUNE ASSEMBLY SESSION IN CONNECTION WITH AGENDA ITEM ON
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EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY.

2. WE ARE TOLD THAT LAST U.S. CONGRESSIONAL OBSERVER TO ATTEND ASSEMBLY MEETING WAS WAYNE HAYS IN DECEMBER 1969. SINCE THEN, REPEATED ASSEMBLY INVITATIONS TO U.S. CONGRESS HAVE BEEN DECLINED. WE BELIEVE INVITATION FOR CONGRESSIONAL OBSERVERS OFFERS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOSE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS TO ATTITUDES OF U.S. CONGRESS, ALONG LINES SUGGESTED IN PARIS 32642 IN CONNECTION WITH VISIT OF WEU ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES TO U.S. WE APPRECIATE THAT CONGRESSMEN'S SCHEDULES ARE VERY TIGHT, AND ATTENDANCE AT ASSEMBLY MEETING WOULD REQUIRE SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT OF TIME. NEVERTHELESS, WE THINK CONGRESSIONAL ATTENDANCE WOULD HELP DEMONSTRATE TO ALLIES THAT U.S. PARTICULARLY U.S. CONGRESS -- HAS NOT TURNED ITS BACK ON EUROPE. MOREOVER, EXCHANGES WITH EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS MIGHT HAVE SALUTARY EFFECT ON CONGRESSIONAL UNDERSTANDING OF CONTINUED VALIDITY OF ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP -- THE PREDOMINANT MOOD OF THE ASSEMBLY.

3. SIMILARLY, INVITATION TO ADMINISTRATOR FLETCHER TO ADDRESS ASSEMBLY ON JUNE 18 OFFERS OPPORTUNITY FOR USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. AS SIR JOHN'S INVITATION SAYS, "MY COLLEAGUES AND I ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING A BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF THE ORGANIZATION, METHODS AND OBJECTIVES OF NASA SINCE A EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY MUST DRAW ON THE VALUABLE EXPERIENCE GAINED BY THE U.S. IN THIS FIELD."

4. RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT GIVE ITS FULL SUPPORT TO ASSEMBLY'S INVITATIONS FOR CONGRESSIONAL OBSERVERS AND FOR DR. FLETCHER'S PARTICIPATION.
STONE

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